

### \$10,000 FIRE ALARM BRIBE.

**SWING SWEARS HE MEANT IT FOR THOMAS F. NEVINS.**

Nevins Says the Testimony Is False—Ewing Says That He Borrowed \$5,000 From A. D. Julliard and Handed Ten \$1,000 Bills in an Envelope to a Man He "Didn't Know" to Reconcile the Fire Department and the Pneumatic Alarm Company.

Bernard M. Ewing, President of the Pneumatic Fire Alarm Telegraph Company, made some remarkable statements in his testimony on April 15 last in the Court of Chancery, Jersey City, in a suit brought against the company by Albert Goldstein, its former general manager. Mr. Ewing told of going to see Thomas F. Nevins, former Chief of the Brooklyn Fire Department, and one of Hugh McLaughlin's right hand men, to enlist Nevins's influence with the New York Fire Department in behalf of the Pneumatic Fire Alarm Telegraph Company. Ewing swore that at this interview he and Mr. Nevins were unable to come to an agreement, that Mr. Nevins wanted a cash salary of \$5,000 a year, which Ewing did not want to give, whereas Mr. Nevins did not want to accept for his services the \$10,000 stock in the Pneumatic Fire Alarm Telegraph Company which Mr. Ewing did want to give.

Thus the negotiations were broken off, but they were renewed again, according to Mr. Ewing's testimony, by Goldstein, then manager of the company, who came to Mr. Ewing some time after the first negotiations with Mr. Nevins and said that he, Goldstein, thought the thing could be settled by a cash payment of \$10,000. Following this, according to Mr. Ewing, Goldstein brought a man who he, Ewing, supposed was the representative of Thomas F. Nevins. To this person, whose name Ewing said he "didn't know," Mr. Ewing swore that he gave an envelope containing ten one-thousand-dollar bills, which it was his understanding was to go to Mr. Nevins for the purpose of inducing Mr. Nevins to use his influence with the Ganowall Fire Alarm Telegraph Company, and through that company with the New York Fire Department, in favor of the Pneumatic Fire Alarm Company.

Right here it may be said that Mr. Nevins, who was talked with yesterday on the subject, flatly and emphatically denies such of Mr. Ewing's testimony as concerns him and says that no representative of his saw Mr. Ewing or got any money from him.

"And how about Mr. Ewing's statement that you asked for a salary of \$5,000 a year to look after the Pneumatic Fire Alarm Telegraph Company's interests?" Mr. Nevins was asked.

"It is nonsense," he replied. "I would not accept such a salary. I would not bother with it. There is not a word of truth in the statement. They wanted me to go over to Jersey City and testify in that case and I would not do it. My time is too valuable. I wrote to Mr. Ewing's lawyers telling them as I have told you that there was no truth in the statement."

The lawsuit which brought out all this was one brought by Albert Goldstein, the organizer, and, until Dec. 19 of last year, the business manager of the Pneumatic Fire Alarm Telegraph Company, to compel that company to restore him to membership of the Board of Directors of that company, from which he had been expelled illegally dropped. Mr. Goldstein was at one time employed in a subordinate capacity in Judge Augustus Van Wyck's law office. He went to a Western city a few years ago and made some money there.

When he returned to New York he set about organizing the Pneumatic Fire Alarm Telegraph Company to exploit certain patents he held on a device for turning in fire alarms from such buildings as the law requires shall be equipped with. The device, which was made by Ewing, thought well of the scheme, as did Michel Bouvier, Max Hadt and Thomas R. Brown. So all four of them put in \$250 each, making up a capital of \$1,000. The company was organized and Goldstein, who had a practical knowledge of the business, was made manager.

In December last, Ewing as President of the company wrote to Goldstein peremptorily demanding his resignation as manager. Goldstein replied asking for an explanation, but when Ewing refused to give him one, Goldstein, however, wrote that at least one cause of his dissatisfaction was the fact that Ewing was making correspondence with the heads of the New York Fire Department.

Mr. Ewing says in one of his letters that there is by him a letter from Goldstein's letters to the department, which he considered the department is "standing in" with other fire alarm telegraph companies. In another letter Ewing wrote to Goldstein that he, Goldstein, had said he was going to send a short, crisp note to the Fire Department, which was, in fact, a long, large typewritten letter, which, Mr. Ewing submits, is not his idea of a short, crisp note.

But whatever may have been the cause Mr. Ewing determined that Mr. Goldstein must go and he went, as above related. And when Mr. Ewing had him out of the management, he determined also to have him out of the Board of Directors. A meeting was called for Jan. 23 last, the call being signed by Max Hadt, Harold J. Collier and Bernard M. Ewing. At this meeting a new board of directors was chosen and Goldstein was left out in the cold. He at once began suit and his attorneys set in the best advised, and eventually the best advised, in the world. Ewing was at one time a stockholder legally entitled to vote.

The person who signed the call to a meeting of the Board of Directors was a young man who has been employed at Mr. Ewing's country place at Wyckoff, N. Y., and who was made Secretary of the Pneumatic Fire Alarm Telegraph Company. He held, according to his own and Mr. Ewing's statement, five shares of stock. Counsel for Goldstein set in to show that the holding of the stock was fictitious and that it was really stock belonging to Mr. Ewing that was put in Goldstein's name.

The first hearing of the case took place before Vice-Chancellor Pitney in Jersey City on April 15, and it was in the examination of Mr. Ewing as to the transfer of stock to Goldstein that the statements were made which have been the cause of the present trial. The five shares that went to Goldstein, he testified, were part of a block of \$7,500 in

### TWENTY SAVED IN FIRE NET.

**SOME JUMPED FROM THE ROOF OF BURNING APARTMENT HOUSE.**

Chief Croker's Latest Device in a Really Serious Test Prevents Loss of Life—Slight Fall Hurts Man and Woman Who Didn't Leap Right—Several Slightly Burned.

Some twenty persons jumped into the fire net and were saved by it at a fire that started late last night in a butter and egg store at 758 Lexington avenue, which is the southwest corner of Sixtieth street, and spread both ways until the big fatnesses, 756 to 752 inclusive, were ablaze.

Engine 39 was the first to get there. The men put up short ladders and saved a score of persons who were clinging to the fire escapes.

While they were working, Truck 10 with its life net arrived. The net was spread on the Lexington avenue side of the building and fifteen persons jumped into it from the third floor. None of them were injured.

Three jumped into the net from the top of the six-story building and they escaped without injury. Meanwhile, Mr. and Mrs. A. U. Young, who lived on the third floor at 758, were both standing at their window. They did not see the net and jumped to the sidewalk. Mrs. Young was badly hurt and was placed in one of the four ambulances which had been sent to the fire on receipt of hurry calls.

Mr. Young, who was only bruised, was cared for by a neighbor.

The new life net, which was adopted at the suggestion of Chief Croker, is circular and about twenty-four feet in circumference. It has a rim of metal to which the net is attached by means of a rope. It was mated at last night by six firemen, who had no trouble in holding the men and women who jumped into it. The six firemen were afterward reinforced by as many policemen.

Alfred Story, his wife, baby and his nurse, were saved by jumping from the third story by policemen Sullivan and a citizen. They were all slightly burned.

Mr. Brown, who was carrying a child, was safely carried down from the fourth floor on the Lexington avenue side into the net. She was slightly burned about the head and back.

Joseph C. Conway of 1323 Madison avenue tried to catch her and strained his back as a result.

William Johnson was brought down from the third floor by policemen McMahon and Dillon. He was burned about the head and back. An old woman, Mrs. Hubert, was taken from the fourth floor on the Lexington avenue side. She was burned about the head and back.

Several firemen were cut and hurt by falling glass and wreckage.

The hair of one of the women who jumped into the net was caught in the net and when the firemen got the net in place she jumped into it in safety. As she was being taken from the net the firemen smothered the burning hair with their coats.

**PLUNDER OF TWENTY-FIVE BORDERS.**

Young Store Worker Moved His Stolen Goods and Attracted Attention.

Reading, Pa., May 7.—When Jacob P. Miller, a young store worker, quarreled with his boss and his wife, he stole a half dozen big packing cases, which were heavy, the neighbors wondered. Detective Harby, who had been shadowing the neighborhood, followed the load and found Miller. Early this morning he arrested him and his wife. Miller had a complete set of burglar tools and dynamite. The packing cases contained \$2,500 worth of plunder from twenty-five burglaries in this region the past three months.

There were fifty watches, silverware, hardware, fur coats, neckties, tobacco, stationery, blankets, carpets, calicoes, muslins, dress goods, three rifles, swords and a number of other things taken from stores, post offices and dwellings. The officers next arrested Milton Grimes, a young shoemaker and a pal of Miller's. He placed a large lot of stolen goods in a place.

Both men were locked up. Grimes confessed to several robberies. He has served several sentences in jail. At Miller's residence more stolen articles were secured, including a valuable violin. A large number of things were notified to come in and pick out their belongings.

About \$6,000 of stuff was stolen in all, much of it having been sold.

**OVER SEAS TO A BANQUET.**

New York's Representatives at Coming Banquet of London's Chamber of Commerce.

The following have accepted invitations to represent the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York at the banquet of the London Chamber of Commerce which is to take place on June 5.

Morris K. Jessup, Gen. Horace Porter, Levi P. Morton, Cornelius N. Jones, J. Pierpont Morgan, Andrew Carnegie, Charles F. Smith, George Wilson, Indor Straus, Charles A. Scherer, William Butler Dunton, John T. Terry, Clement A. Grissom, Charles Lanier, James Stillman, Harris C. Fahnestock, J. Kennedy, Ed. T. Wilson, James S. Key, Charles F. Flint, George Higgins, Eugene Polansky, A. Barton Hepburn, John Waterbury, Levi C. Weil, William H. Parsons, James McCree, George Gray Ward, James W. Pinchot, Vernon H. Brown, George H. Sargent, Francis R. Appleton, Clarence Cary and Cornelius C. Cayler.

Several of the foregoing are already in Europe. A number are now on their way, and the others will leave not later than May 20.

**WAS BURYING HIMSELF ALIVE.**

Man Who Sought Peace in Calvary Cemetery Grave Lands in Jail.

Late yesterday afternoon the attention of workmen in Calvary Cemetery, Long Island City, was attracted to a newly opened grave by hearing groans and prayers ascend from it. They found a man in it buried to his armpits and trying to burrow under the earth altogether. He told the workmen that he was tired of life and wanted to rest in peace.

They dug him out, and a policeman took him before Magistrate Healy, who committed him to the County Jail. He told the Magistrate that he was John Healy, but refused to give his address. It is thought that he is mentally unsound.

### PLANS OF CRUISER ST. LOUIS MISSING.

**They Were Forwarded to Shipbuilding Firm and Have Disappeared.**

WASHINGTON, May 7.—The Navy Department is trying to solve the mystery of the disappearance of plans of the protected cruiser St. Louis, one of the five vessels for which contracts were recently awarded.

The Philadelphia shipbuilding firm of Neafie & Levy was the successful competitor for the St. Louis and complete plans were forwarded to it by the Naval Bureau of Construction through the naval constructor assigned to the firm's works. A receipt for the plans, signed by the constructor, and another receipt signed by the President of the firm, were received by the construction bureau.

Chief Naval Constructor Bowles and his assistants, therefore, were much astonished when Neafie & Levy informed them that the plans had not been received. It was admitted by the firm that the receipt had been given, but it was explained that this had been prepared in advance and signed inadvertently.

The constructor at the Neafie & Levy works says that he received the plans and turned them over to the firm. No trace of the plans can be found. Investigation is being made at Washington and Philadelphia. Plans of warships are guarded carefully by the Navy Department, as foreign nations are always on the alert to secure them.

The United States Navy Department has never discovered any evidence that plans of American warships had been sold to foreign governments by its own employees or employees of shipbuilding firms, and nobody here is willing to say that there has been any dishonesty in the present instance.

The plans of the St. Louis are similar to those of her sister ships, the new Charles and the Milwaukee, so that the entire workings and arrangements of three American protected cruisers of the highest type would be known to any shipbuilding expert or nation that possessed those of the St. Louis.

**BRITANNIES AGAIN FOR TENSION.**

Combination Policy Approved at a Conference in Omaha Yesterday.

OMAHA, Neb., May 7.—Influential politicians from other States held a conference in Omaha this afternoon to discuss the question of future combinations among the Populists and Democrats. The conference was incidental to the Copper Club banquet this evening, and the town is crowded with politicians. Mr. Bryan is the center of interest.

Gen. Sawyer of Iowa, Senator Allen, ex-Gov. Rogers and Mr. Bryan were the leading speakers in the conference. The sentiment was overwhelmingly favorable to fusion and Mr. Bryan was instructed to favor the idea in his paper so that the factions in other States might follow the combination policy.

Mr. Bryan spoke to-night on "Fusion" before the Copper Club Assembly. He referred to the success of fusion in Nebraska, and pointed to the fact that the State had been wrested from the Republicans for six years because of fusion and a majority of the Congressional delegation had thus been secured.

"Our enemies would be but too glad," he declared, "to see fusion abandoned both as a State and national question. For this reason, we must not only keep the Populists and Democrats both, but also, I predict further victories for the combined forces opposed to Republicanism. Fusion, I believe, will be a powerful factor in future Presidential elections and I see no reason why we should change our course in this respect."

**WILLING TO HELP MAURIN.**

Farmer and Mechanic in South Carolina Declared of Leaving the Democrats.

COLUMBIA, S. C., May 7.—John B. Cleveland of Spartanburg, the President of a railroad and one of two cotton mills, and an extensive holder of cotton mill securities, said here today that the people of his region, where the mills flourish, will break away from the Democrats and join the Republicans party when the negro feature is eliminated. Starch Democrats who stood with Senator Tillman a few years ago, he says, will openly support Senator McLean, the junior Senator, who is engineering the Republican movement.

Mr. Cleveland said that the new converts are not only the men interested financially in cotton mills, but that the mechanics and the farmers, who have seen conditions grow worse under the fear of free silver, are anxious to leave the old party for the new one. He will leave the old party for the new one, he said, and will be a leading figure in the acquisition of the Philippines and add greatly to the revenues of the mill district. Business interests in the State seem stronger than former political associations, and there is a big element flocking to McLean and his new party.

**WONT GET EX-GOV. TAYLOR.**

Kentucky Has a Home in Indianapolis and Will Stay There.

INDIANAPOLIS, May 7.—W. S. Taylor, former Governor of Kentucky, who is charged with complicity in the murder of Senator Goebel, has purchased the residence property at 141 North Pennsylvania street from former Judge Hickock of the Supreme Court, and his friends announce that he has received assurances of protection and has determined to make this State his home. The assurance that Gov. Dublin will not honor a requisition for his return to Kentucky is believed to have come indirectly through the executive office, but not from the Governor himself, but it is so that Mr. Taylor feels that there is no probability of his being surrendered to the Kentucky authorities, and he has invested \$500 in a home in one of the most slightly residence districts in the city.

**"PHILADELPHIA TIMES" SOLD.**

Adolph S. Ochs of the "New York Times" Purchases It—Brother Will Manage It.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 7.—The Philadelphia Times has passed into the possession of Adolph S. Ochs of the New York Times, and will be conducted in conjunction with that paper and the Chattanooga Times, of which his brother George W. Ochs is proprietor. George W. Ochs will become manager of the Philadelphia publication.

The leading editorial article to-morrow will say that no factor of other party will be favored. No personal ambition for public office will be indulged in, and the paper will be dedicated to all that is for the public welfare, will be intensely American, will on all occasions be true to the United States, its institutions and its people and will employ the highest and purest type of civilization.

**Barnett's Vanilla Extract**

the best, and the best is none too good for your food.

Underberg-Rhonekamp Bitters.

These Raymond Galt Wills.

Yoke Norfolk Jackson and the "New York Times."

A. Raymond & Co., Nassau & Fulton Sts., N. Y.

White Label Guinness Stout.

plains particular people.—Ad.

### CROSS TO SUCCEED DEVER?

**TALE TO THAT EFFECT HAS REACHED THE FIFTEEN.**

Devery's to Get Out Within Six Weeks as a Sop to the Reformers, Leaving the Tactical Cross to Handle the Situation, Runs the Tale—Murphy and Devery Both Deny It.

A citizen high in the councils of the Committee of Fifteen told a SUN reporter last night that Chief Devery is to retire within six weeks and that Acting Deputy Chief Adam A. Cross will be appointed to take his place. This step, the SUN's informant asserted, had been decided upon as a sop to reform and a means of lessening the activity of the Fifteen. Said this man:

"Already a great howl is going up from the poolroom and gambling house-keepers. They are beginning to realize that the Committee of Fifteen intends to keep on with its work and that with the busy season just beginning the probability is that unless something is done soon the summer will be a bad one for them. I understand that the 'big men' have been discussing the situation among themselves and have reached the conclusion that if Devery is dropped, the bottom will fall out of the Fifteen's movement."

It is the opinion of these men that Cross is the best man to deal with the problem which confronts them. Cross is tactful and diplomatic. They will rely upon him to satisfy the committee, that the Police Department is prepared to shut down upon gambling and that there need be no further raiding. But neither Inspector Cross nor any one else will be able to quell the Fifteen. We are now spending \$10,000 a month upon our work, and within the next few weeks sufficient money has been pledged to continue the work for another two years if required.

The only way to beat the gambling element is to keep the bottom of the Fifteen's movement. If we keep the bottom away at them for a year as we are doing now, there will be previous few profitable points remaining in this city at the end of the time. Many of the out-of-town gamblers who have fled to this city during the last two years have already left it and numerous others who have been here for years have closed for good. The time being being suspended business."

Commissioner Murphy and Deputy Commissioner Devery both deny last night that there was any truth in this tale. They said such a thing had never been thought of.

Deputy Commissioner Devery, notwithstanding many reports to the contrary, will not lead the police parade, which has been set for May 21, but will be a private citizen and yesterday that Mr. Devery is a private citizen and therefore has no right to head the uniformed force in its march in Broadway.

Deputy Commissioner Devery will ride at the front of the procession, but the senior Deputy Chief will probably have the honor. However, Mr. Devery will not be left out entirely. He will be a member of the parade and will review the force from the grand stand.

Just before last night yesterday that if the heads of the police really desired to shut up the poolrooms and gambling houses of this city they could accomplish it much quicker than could any body of citizens or even the Judges.

"The Charter and the law defining the powers of the police," said the informant, "are such that the police are able to raid disorderly and illegal houses being visited. All this requires is to have the written command of a single officer. But with regard to the Committee of Fifteen and myself we cannot make a raid without a warrant issued by a Justice of the Peace."

In advance of Mayor Van Wyck is also clothed with the powers of a Magistrate and could see to it that the police were doing their duty. But I really could not say that he has already enough to do without troubling about gambling and poolrooms."

**WHOLE BE ACTING INSPECTOR.**

Job Going Begging in Mulberry Street—Neither Cash Nor Glory in It These Days.

Police Commissioner Murphy is having some difficulty in finding a captain who is willing to take the job of acting inspector to fill the vacancy made by the elevation of Inspector Cross to be an Acting Deputy Chief. None of the captains seem to care about taking the work and responsibility without salary, but I really could not say that he has already enough to do without troubling about gambling and poolrooms."

The revenue stamps on the deed which was filed at the Register's office yesterday indicate that the deed was made on May 7, 1901. The deed was made by Charles J. Walcott, a resident of the city, to the city of New York.

Mr. Walcott is a resident of the city and is a member of the city's police force. He is a member of the city's police force and is a member of the city's police force.

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### CHAFFEE PUTS US ON BRITISH SIDE.

**Speech by Our Commander in China Arouses Much Comment.**

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. PARIS, May 7.—A despatch from Pekin says that a few evenings ago Gen. Chaffee, the British Commander, gave a smoking concert in the Temple of Heaven in honor of Gen. Chaffee, the Commander of the American troops, and the American officers.

Gen. Chaffee made a political speech, which has caused much comment and adverse criticism outside the British camp. The following version of the speech, which is accepted on all sides as correct, was published in the official organ of the British legation on Saturday:

"Let Kings, Ministers and politicians say what they may, but I can tell you this, that never will you see Americans and the British facing each other in the field. Our national policy may be to steer clear of international complications, but should circumstances arise in which we must make a choice our inclinations will be with the British."

**MILE GAIT ONLY FOR AUTOS.**

Ordinance Proposed in the Board of Aldermen With Sanctions Trifling.

Aldermen Otten (Dem., Queens) introduced a resolution at the meeting of the board yesterday limiting the speed of all automobiles in the city limits to eight miles an hour. He said that in Queens borough he had frequently seen automobiles that were going forty or fifty miles an hour and that there seemed to be no way to make them go slow.

Alderman McCall, the leader of the majority, said that he thought the proposed ordinance was a good one and that it should be passed at once.

These things are well-earned very largely by the rich and the well-to-do," said Mr. McCall, who is a well-to-do real estate dealer, "and they are the ones who would ride rough shod over the common people. I think that we should adopt that at once."

The motion was referred to the Committee on Law.

**CHRISTIAN SCIENCE FAILED.**

Mrs. Benway Tried the Library of the Scheme in Childbirth and Has Died.

BOSTON, May 7.—Mrs. Ernest Benway, wife of a Christian Science barter, who runs a shop at the corner of Columbia and Massachusetts avenues, died at her home on Cambridge street this morning of the effects of childbirth. A regular physician called at her office in the immediate neighborhood and the woman was sacrificed. Mr. and Mrs. Benway were followers of Mr. Eddy's teachings and, although not members, they attended her church on Falmouth street regularly. A child was born on April 4, and since then Mrs. Benway has had two Christian Science healers and a nurse attending her and, although not members, they attended her church on Falmouth street regularly.

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### HILL LOSES IN STOCK DUEL.

**HARRIMAN SYNDICATE SAID TO "CONTROL NORTHERN PACIFIC."**

What Becomes of the Burlington Deal?—Can Corner, With N. P. Lending at \$7 a Share for One Day—Arbitrage Dealers Caught—Some Big Short Contracts Said to Have Been Cancelled for Prices Agreed On.

A fight between giants of the financial world for the control of the Northern Pacific Railroad ended yesterday with what is declared to be the defeat of James J. Hill, President of the Great Northern Railroad, and his friends, and the acquisition of control by the Harriman syndicate, from which the Hill interests vainly strove the other day to wrest Union Pacific. The Harriman syndicate is made up of E. H. Harriman, James Stillman, President of the National City Bank, and Jacob H. Schiff of Kuhn, Loeb & Co. George J. Gould, President of the Missouri Pacific Railroad, has close friendly relations with the syndicate.

The following version of the struggle and its result comes from a quarter in which authentic information frequently prevails:

It has been known for some time that the plans of Mr. Hill indicated by the arrangements made for acquisition by the Great Northern and Northern Pacific companies of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad by the issue of collateral trust bonds had disturbed the Union Pacific interests. It was these plans that led up to the great exhibition of stock market fireworks in both Northern Pacific and Union Pacific stocks last week and this, when the rival financial interests that were struggling for the stock of both companies were buying the shares in enormous blocks.

Mr. Hill started to buy into Union Pacific, and the Harriman syndicate bought more of the stock of that company, and it also bought and bought and bought Northern Pacific. Mr. Hill, who had told his friends some time ago that he could control the Northern Pacific Company at its next election, bought Northern Pacific, too.

That was why the common stock of the Union Pacific Company touched 133 on Thursday of last week, as compared with 117, the low point of the day before, and why Northern Pacific common stock on Monday of this week went up 17 1/2 points to 127, its closing price, and jumped 22 1/2 points more yesterday to 149 1/2, with the closing price for the day 149 1/2.

The stock was actually cornered, the tremendous buying demand of the rival Harriman and Hill interests having absorbed the entire floating supply. An enormous short interest was